more days—perhaps for two weeks. If By these rules he hopes to save 10 per the shortage lasts in the city longer than cent. in lighting and 10 per cent. in electric lighting and 10 per cent.

that I don't know what we will do."

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel was able to purchase a small supply of coal yesterday and had it delivered. The manager said the engineer seems not to be worried; that so far the hotel has not had to cut down on the electric lights or economize more than the hotel men recondly agreed to do.

The chief engineer of the Biltmore was absent last night, but one of the assistant managers answered that the hotel was 'fatrly well fixed."

The McAlpin, Claridge and others have ordered stringent economies in lights and elevator service and hops to tide themselves at least over the present

themselves at least over the present shortage. How they will fare, hovevor, if New York is unable to get more coal soon, the managers said, is something over which they are worrying.

Cabaret Restaurants May Close. Managers of Broadway's most popu-

they were allowed a sufficient supply of coal for their needs they would have to

coal for their needs they would have to close up soon.

They declared that they should have some consideration as they had been doing their best to help Mr. Hoover by "war portions" and conservation litera-ture placed on the tables. They also reminded the official that they are pay-ring big taxes and are also causing their patrons to contribute to the general tax

Bince the first signs of coal shrinkage, they said, they had done their best to cut off unnecessary lights, and in many instances had reduced the supply of heat where they thought it might not be noticed. Several of the managers said that their waiters were under strict in-structions to shut off individual table lights as soon as a table was emptied.

Others said that for the first time in their history they had given orders to their furnace tenders to sift all ushes for coke and stray pieces of coal.

Those who saw the administrator were John J. Cavanaugh, P. V. Kyne, of furray's," James Churchill of hurchill's," the Shanley brothers, Tom Healy and representatives of Sherry's. Delmonico's and the Palais Royal.

Pacamonia Cases Increase.

Health Department officials announce ontinued rise in the number of cases of pneumonia and are daily in receipt of eals for coal from all parts of the where there is illness in the homes.

Bureau of Public Health Education of the Department of Health. From Sat-urday noon last to yesterday noon there were 263 deaths from the disease, out of a total of 1.443 fatalities from all critical has the situation become among the working and poorer classes of the city that a letter was yesterday drafted and directed to Frank L. Dowling. President of the Board of Alderby seven Aldermen-elect. The let-

'DEAR MR. DOWLING, The undersigned Aldermen-elect, owing by direct touch with our constituents in the working class districts of the city how desperate is the suffering caused by the inability of the people to procure coal for domestic use, feel justified in addressing you, and through you the Board of Aldermen, on the subject, instead of waiting until we have as-

"I. . of thousands of families are at this moment suffering from cold, hun-dreds of thousands more are living in instant fear. Each day that goes by is homes. The question is in the most literal serve one of life and death on a le. The situation is one that immediate action, bold action, action that will break through all con-

sideration of technicality and routine.
"We urge that your honorable board the necessary steps to see to it that without an hour's avoidable delay emergency is met along the follow-

"First, by using city funds or credit to the amount of \$500,000 to purchase coal at the mines and put it on sale direct to consumers at prices only cover-

Second, by using city funds or credit to the amount of \$1,000,000 to purchase and store in the city a reserve of coal

"Third, by enlisting the aid of the Federal authorities, as we know the Administration of this city can do if it will assert itself firmly enough in the

that the people are expecting their rep-reentatives to act for the preservation The letter was signed by Adolph Held.

Pourth Aldermanic district: Abraham Beckerman, Sixth Aldermanic district; Algernon Lee, Eighth Aldermanic dis-trict; Maurice S. Calman, Twentieth Al-

One of the gravest problems of the coal situation yesterday was that of obtaining sufficient supply to furnish light. heat and power in the larger office build-

lone elevator in operation was being run on reserve power. With less than an hour's supply on hand meant a complete shut down of all activity on its thirtytwo floors.

With one exception, the Woolworth ones

building, the coal shortage had found its way in one continuous line from Canal' street south to the Battery and inter-

bunkers of The Sun building from 2 decided to ask the citizens of New York Ward compan o'clock until 5 yesterday afternoon, when who have abundance of coal stored in February 25, a wagonload was delivered, which was their cellars to release some of it for the J. F. Hilleri

which he suggests that rooms should not be cooled by opening the windows; that open to make the atmosphere endurable, windows should not be left open and tights turned on at the innch time and at night upon leaving; conservation of the practice of using offices late at night. The controller consists of Mrs. Julian

itor service. While Mr. Coley would not admit that

mitted that the supply was extremely low, less than 40 per cent. of normal, and that every conservative policy was being inaugurated, as the outlook for future deliveries was extremely gloomy In a building under reconstruct Broad street there are great qua of green plaster which must be dried.
The contractor is unable to obtain a pound of coal and has employed a gang of men to roll waste paper into tight rolls. These are soaked in coal oil and

are being burned in the boilers to heat the building.

No less than five building managers in the Wall Street district have an-nounced their intention of closing all offices at 7 o'clock each evening, begin-

on Sundays and holidays.

It was pointed out by one office building superintendent that the situation here differs greatly from many cities in

morning and banked earlier in the evening in addition to the plan of closing the buildings on Sundays and holidays.

He has also accepted the volunteer services of a number of expert engineers to rerin amago with out stop for classification en route is proving successful. We are doing everything possible to expedite the coal movement, and there is no delay in getting the coal to New York plears after it has The highest mark for a week during gest to engineers means of conserving the season was reached in fatalities from coal.

Weather May Aid Solution. While there was no definite plan of relief in sight at a late hour last night. Federal Fuel Administrator for Manhattan Reeve Schley was optimistic, saying that with favorable weather con-ditions he hopes to have coal moving from tidewater into Manhattan under

than 200 men in active service in the various New Jersey railroad yards and on the docks 9,600 tons of coal were moved on Friday and it was estimated that 10,600 or 12,000 and tons of the lines of persons of both sexes and

water in the next ten days because of Government supervision, which reserves the right to divert shipments consigned to New York to other pairs. the amount of coal which will reach tideto New York to other points as necessity requires. Now that the labor shortage has been

relieved at tidewater and coal seems to moving at the same small like pace. the blame has been shifted to the du about 40 per cent, of that amount is

the Government order the railroads to age obtain additional means in the way of the labor and dumping facilities and charge ordin increased cost to the price of the coal, which would represent only a few cents to the ton.

It is said that facilities at Perth Am-

Conl Censor Is Suggested.

and store in the city a reserve of coal and store in the city or any emergency to tide the city over any emergency reached the city of New York since last father might otherwise arise in the course father than during the same period in 1916. What became of it is at present a question for investigation. In this connection it has been suggested that Positive the directed to

of each week signs of any kind, includ-ing merchants' signs, hotel signs, thea-tre signs, also display lights on build-

ney Vladeck, Fifty-sixth district, and by
Barnet Wolff, Pifty-ninth district.

The Department of Correction reports a full and ample supply of coal at Black, well's Island, having had deliveries made last March. The Department of Charites also reports sufficient coal on hand to last throughout the winter.

One of the graves.

Fuel Administrator Joseph H. Hall for the Borough of The Bronx says that the situation in his borough is still example of the borough is still example of 4.000 tons of coal, only 290 souri to appear before the Senate Manutons were received on Friday, and hearing factures Committee to tell of the Ohio tween 600 and 300 tons yesterday. The coal shortage. The committee hearing said to be the first step in a Federal supply is exhausted in every yard where Office Buildings Hard Hit. it is possible to move coal. Some yards
In the City Investing Building, 165 are still snowbound, but work is pro-

Broadway, at 5 o'clock yesterday after-moon there were less than ten wheelbar-row loads of coal in the bunkers and the spartment houses without a pound of coal. Hospitals are being taken care of first, and conditions yesterday in these institutions were reported to be greatly improved. Hig consumers in The Brons are greater sufferers than the smaller

Housewives Discuss Situation.

street south to the Battery and intersecting streets at noon yesterday. Conditions in the midtown belt were comparatively better only because there are
fewer big buildings and less coal went
further.

The New York local committee of the
National Housewives League held a conference yesterday at their new headquarters. 30 West Thirty-ninth street, to
consider the food and fuel situation in
New York etty. The committee, of
which Mrs. John Oakman is chairman,
bunkers of The Sun building from 2
o'clock until 5 yesterday afternoon, when
who have abundance of coal stored in
February 25. The New York local committee of the a wagonicad was delivered, which was only sufficient to produce heat and power throughout the night. Similar conditions earnest appeal to them, and if all who were the rule rather than the exception in more than a score of office buildings in the immediate neighborhood.

At the Equitable Huilding, where more than 13,000 workers are housed each day. Operating Manager C. T. Coley has married a scheme of conservation which he hopes will releve, in a measure, the seriousness of the shortage which three many the seriousness of the shortage which three rather to one will send their names to Mrs. John Oakman, 3 The latter is said to have stiffed competition by giving large amounts of yeast of stributing stations, where the coal may distributing the committee made an ville, K., makers of basebail bats, and the National Distilling to the National Distilling Company. Miles the National Distilling to the National Distilling Company. Miles the National

ens to close down the building. He is man, "that some of the big hotels and addressing a letter to the tenants in the large business buildings are so overwhich he suggests that rooms should not heated that the windows must be kept



Blame on Allies for Any Bloodshed in 1918. BERLIN TELLS OF TREATY

Pact With Russia Finally Formulated, Is German

Unsurpassed

Mineral Water

here differs greatly from many cities in the West, in that instead of the building manacement furnishing light this part of the service is metered direct to the tenant, so that instead of the light buttons being controlled by the office buttons being controlled by the office boy and the thoughtless cierk they are regulated by the cashler or treasurer of the service of the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was been sufficiently that the same authority that the service is the service of the service is metered by the same authority that the service is metered by the same authority that the service is metered by the same authority that the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning. It was the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning in the service is metered direct to colock yesterday morning.

the tenant.

The question of coal conservation was the for discussion before the New York Building Managers Association at its last meeting, and definite action is expected during the week on the proposition of suggesting to owners of office buildings the closing down of light and heat at 7 o'clock in the evening and the discontinuance of the practice of keeping open on Sundays and holidays.

Administrator Schley is considering a plan of suggesting to office building in the oversthat fires be started later in the morning and banked earlier in the evening and banked earlier in the college of the same period out stop for classification en route is barges.
"We have organized our coal unloadvices of a number of expert engineers the coal to New York piers after it has a will visit office buildings and sug-been dumped into boats at Perth Am-

rapidly as possible, and the people ought not get panicky on the subject."

Brooklyn Gets Small Supply. With the arrival of 2,300 tons of coal by barge and approximately the same amount by rail yesterday, the almost normal conditions by Monday.

The Fuel Administrator estimates that there are 40,000 tons of coal at New that many schools in the borough are in the treatment of the borough are in the borough are need of coal, but expressed the hope

moved on Friday and it was estimated that 10,000 or 12,000 additional tons would reach this city during Saturday Men, cars and barges will be kept moving night and day from now on and this has given rise to the optimistic attimile of the Fuel Administrator.

The lines of persons of both sexes and all classes were larger outside the numerous coal yards. At Reimer's yard in the East New York section, more than 4000 were among the "bushel squads" seeking surplies from about 200 tons of fuel at hand. In nearly every part of the hopeing like conditions obtained, eshas given rise to the optimistic at seeking supplies from about 200 tons of the of the Fuel Administrator. It is said to be difficult to estimate the borough like conditions obtained, estimate stood for hours waiting their turn to set a small portion of the warmth pre-

The Fuel Administrator is too busy there mays to attend to the many com-claints hourse ledged at his office in the Temple Bur Building anent the alfittions 40,000 tons of coal can be moved | coal by small dealers to those who can

oal by small deals at the shore who can least afford to be "done"
"What I am interested in is getting the coal here," said, Mr. Gunnison. "My time is occupied attending to the shortir and dumping facilities and charge
or dinary weather. Because of the extraordinary weather conditions and the task of remining the frezen coal when it gets to tidewater we can't get out a tenth new of what w should get. One difficulty we have to face is the need of supplying the Government and the factories engaged on investor. direct to consumers at prices only covering costs of purchase and transportation, boy N. J. are practically fled up. No coal reached this city from there on Fridatories engaged on important Government and the factories engaged on important Government work. Every plant which has a distributing centres.

Amsterdam.

On the other hand, says the vienna Neue Freie Presse, actions and public health stations as distributing centres.

CLOSE PITTSBURG PLANTS.

Electric Current to Be Denied for All Non-essentials.

Third, by enlisting the aid of the Federal authorities, as we know the Administration of this city can do if it will assert itself firmly enough in the name of the 5,000,000 people whom it represents, so that shipments of coal will be given the right of way in precedence to everything else except necessary food supplies.

"We know, sir, that there will be difficulties in the way, but we feel that in such times as these difficulties are to be mentioned only to be overcome, not to serve as reasons for failure to act. It is in this spirit that military enterprises are undertaken; it is in this spirit of each week signs have been warned and a strict watch will be kept upon them.

Beginning to-night, an additional order relative to electric signs will go into feffect. On Sunday and Thugsday nights manufacturing of non-essentials, but asprises are undertaken; it is in this spirit that military enterprises are undertaken; it is in this spirit that different the content of the council of national lorence.

The first of the council of this content and the commissioner Woods be directed to that Power solutely necessary materials will be forced to close down the first of next week unless their plants are seam to equipped, as the entire supply of electric signs of the city Friday night. The owners of the city Friday night and the providence of the council of National Defence.

Mr. Bulkley said he was unable to say how long power would be denied manufacturing of non-essentials, but asprise are undertaken; it is in this spirit that military enterprises are undertaken; it is in this spirit that military enterprises are undertaken; it is in this spirit in the providence of the council of National Defence.

The first of the city friday night and the providen Pirrsnung, Pa., Dec. 15.-Practically

discontinued completely. On these nights stores not open for business must not show inside lights more than are necessary for safety.

Sunday and Thursday nights will hereafter be called "lightless nights," and householders are urged to observe these nights with as few lights as possitions are predicted. Between 8,000

is said to be the first step in a Federal investigation of the Ohio coal situation.

WARD CO. NEWLY ACCUSED.

Two New Charges Filed Against Baking Concern.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- Unfair trade meth is were charged against three manufacturers in complaints issued to-day by the Federal Trade Commission.

The Ward Baking Company, New York, is alleged to have changed prices

the J. F. Hillerich & Son Company, Louis-an ville, Ky., makers of baseball bats, and who the National Distilling Company, Mil-

DENICOBAC CIGAR

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KAISER PLANS NEW PROFFER OF PEACE Vessel Sinks Following Col-

At Christmas Time Will Put

Official Report.

London, Dec. 15 .- A peace offer in his Christmas message to the German people is planned by the Kaiser, according in the Wall Street district have nounced their intention of closing all nounced their intention of closing all offices at 7 o'clock each evening, beginning Monday, and of giving no service on Sundays and holidays.

Heath, president of the National House-wive Control of the National House-wive Control of the Sundays and holidays.

Heath, president of the National House-wive Control of the National H Holt Dey, Mrs. Louis do Koven and Holt Dey, Mrs. Louis do Koven and Francis B. Griffin.

According to a representative of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company 3,300 whom, in case of rejection, will fall the responsibility for bloodshed in 1918." It is not explained why the responsibility should be limited to that one year.

The formulation of a "treaty" between Russia and Germany is announced of Russia and Germany is announced of

On the part of both sides the conditions and draft of a treaty were finally formulated in the plenary sitting Pri-day. As, however, the Russian delegates desired to obtain supplementary instructions on some points from their Government the general discussions were postponed until Saturday

It is not clear from this statemen eign Minister, was quoted yesterday as saying that if an armistice should be signed the Russian dalegates would have he power to enter into peace negotiations, but according to the last advices

Armistice Parley Resumed.

A Potrograd despatch dated yesterday announced the resumption of Russo-German armistice negotiations and says they are now concerned with the transport of troops from the front, the question of the seas and conditions of fraternization, fraternization, fraternization, fraternization, fraternization, fraternization, fraternization are attitude in re
Armistice Parley Resumed.

the last few days between the Brenta ing on any tion of their own views, but there apparently is a sharp disagreement among the leaders as to the methods, and angry discussions are reported to have occurred.

Fewer than 100,000 of these are Germans. Of the total it is believed that only law in Russia to-day and the strongest force for the moment is wielded by the Bolsheviki, who, under the guid-

spect of transportation of German troom to other fronts, contending that the Ger-mans should not send men from the east to France and Beistum. The Petrograd newspapers announce that Germany has withdrawn her demand for disarmamen

of the entire Russian army.

Bolshevik units at Kiev have been disarmed by the Ukranians and sent to their homes. In one instance the Bolshevik their homes. In one instance the Bol-chevik troops in Kiev resisted disarma-ment and numerous casualties resulted. The Bolshevik committee of the Twelfth Army Corps has asked for the recall of Major Pichon, head of the French mili-try mission, for protesting against agi-

Germans are exchanging metals and chemicals for vegetables and fats, and especially soap. The price of soap is 75

rubles a pound. Austria does not desire the annexation of Balkan territory or an influence in the formation of the Rumanian and Sercurity for obtaining grain and cattle "from the abundance of those countries," says the Vienna Neue Freie Prease, according to a Vienna telegram to-day to Amsterdam.

specie, it is added to reach an agree ment on this basis with Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik Premier at Petrograd.

BRITISH GAIN IN PALESTINE.

extended his line northeast of Jerusalem on Thursday, capturing 140 prisoners. Otherwise the situation is nchanged. Since Wednesday thre

and another has been brought down.

AND AIRSHIPS LOST KALEDIN CAPTURED, BRITISH DESTROYER

lision-Two Men Lost.

LOWDON, Dec. 15.-A British sirship Leminites Say They Have believed to have been destroyed by a hostile scaplane and a second British airship was forced to descend in Holland, occording to an official announcemen to-night. It was also officially announced that a British destroyer had been sunk The Admiralty statement follows:

A British airship of the non-rigid type, with a crew of five, which pro-ceeded on patrol Tuesday from an east coast base has not returned, and from the information available it is believed ahe has been destroyed by a hostile seaplane in the southern part of the North Sea.

seaplane in the southern part of the
North Sea.

A second airship of similar type was
forced to descend in Holland through
engine failure, on Wednesday.

One of His Majesty's destroyers
was sunk on Wednesday after being in
collision. All the officers and the
ship's company were saved, except two
men who are presumed to have been
drowned.

ITALIANS HOLD FIRM AFTER HARD ATTACK

Austro-Germans Enabled to Post puts it. Take Only One Summit at Enormous Cost.

Paris, Dec. 15 -The great battle on Paris, Dec. 15.—The great battle on the northern Italian front, the only field where important fighting is in progress now, was renewed yesterday with reducibled fury, but after a tremendous all day struggle all that was accomplished by the nuctro-German forces was an advance to Col Caprille, the Italians hold-ing firmly a position silvant in the results of the Cossack capital, to discuss the suspension of military operations. ing firmly a position slightly in the rear of that point. Berlin asserts that forty officers and more than 3,000 men, be-

Four hundred of these monster projec-tiles were concentrated on one point. Gen. Disz, the Italian Commander-in-

o dominating barrier. Even below Grappa formidable defen-

event that the enemy should reach the plain, but each day of his futile pressure on the north and east and of successful resistance by the Italians and their allies strengthens the belief that the enemy

On the other hand, says the newspaper. Congressman on Italian Front Is Injured Slightly.

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS IN NORTHERN ITALY. Dec. 14.—An army automobile in which Congressman George H. Tinkham of Boston was riding to-day, on a visit to Monte Grappa, on the northern mountain front, skidded over the mountainside and dropped twenty feet.

Allenby Reports Advance Northenst of Jerusalem.

Lonion, Dec. 15.—The British have made another advance in Palestine northeast of Jerusalem. The War Office announcement follows:

Gen Allenby reports that he further

Gen Allenby reports that he further

Government Tinkham who find the

Congressman Tinkham, who fired the first American shot against Austria the other day by discharging a gun on the lower Plave front, received alight in-juries, and was cared for by a military

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THE LIBRARY OF THE LATE NELSON SMITH

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SAY BOLSHEVIKI

Taken Cossack Leader and Three Cities.

SITUATION IS CONFUSED

Against Despotic Regime Introduced by Their Chiefs.

Russia, particularly in the south, where the revolt is in progress, grows more and more confused. Even the British correspondents in Petrograd are at sea as regards what is actually taking place and their despatches are conflicting. Much of this may be due to the fact

LONDON, Dec. 15 .- The situation in

that all the regular means of communication are broken down or disorganised. "The fog of war has settled down over all the Russias, although very little actual warfare has developed," is the way the correspondent of the Morning

The Bolshevik press bureau, in a statement which reached here early to-day, asserts in effect that the Kaledin- REPORT AMERICAN Korniloff revolution has collapsed. It declares that the cities of Rostov-on-the-Don, Nakhitchevan and Taganrog, in

Bolshevik Leaders Split. The Bolsheviki in Petrograd are still represented as being determined to pre-vent the Constituent Assembly from tak-ing on any complexion except a reflec-tion of their own views, but there apparently is a sharp disagreement among sion to Russia, is reported to have been the leaders as to the methods, and angry accested at Tohita, Siberia, in company

the lines.

The chief Austro-German effort still centres about Coi Beretta, northeast of Monte Grapper and east of the Brenta River, says the Associated Press correspondent at Italian headquarters.

The enemy has brought a large number of the strongest force for the moment is wielded by the Bolaheviki, who, under the guidence of Lenine and Trotsky are said to have established a despotic regime against which many of the Bolaheviki are murnuring.

According to the Morning Post's correspondent, virtually are supported by the Bolaheviki are murnuring.

According to the Morning Post's cor-respondent, virtually every newspaper in Russia has been suppressed except those favorable to or controlled by the Bolshespondent at Italian headquarters.

The enemy has brought a large number Northern fronts, and the bombardment thas taken on increased range and violence. Some of the shells have reached Mancino, eight miles back of the Piave or less neutral, is now being brought under Bolshevik influence. or less neutral, is now being brought He under Bolshevik influence.

Major Pichon, head of the French military mission, for protesting against agilist agilist and the army against the Entents Allies.

Germans Get Fats in Russia.

The Germans already have begun to obtain fats and other sorely needed supplies from Russia, according to information reaching Petrograd to-day it was announced that credit institutions here had been advised that trade had been advised that trade had been resumed with the Germans at Minsk and other points near the northwestern front. New shors have been opened and the New shors have been opened and the comminating barrier.

tiles were concentrated on one point:

Gen, Disz, the Italian Commander-incontinues. "Soldiers returning by tens of thousands from the war zones no of the call the potential the

The same correspondent points to sunposed indications of the intention to restore the monarchy. Lenine, he says, is
"an invisible mystery, inaccessible and
closely guarded." having given up making speeches, and now shunning publiccommission

M. Lunacharski, Commissioner of Education in the Bolshevik Government, according to a Petrograd despatch to the Times, has resigned as the result of a disagreement with Lenine, Trotzky, Zinovieff and other militant members of the Council of People's Commissaries.

On the announcement that the British

On the announcement that the British On the announcement that the British Government is prepared to reexamine the question of the detention of MM. Tchitcherin and Petroff, Russian citizens, under arrest in England, with a view their return to Russia, Trotzky has a dered that British subjects shall be free to leave Russia.

Even Maximalists Murmur U. S. STAND UNCHANGED. Offer of Railroad Engineers Was

Made to Kerensky. WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—State Department officials made it plain to-day that the statement of Leon Trotzky. Bolshevik Foreign Minister, that the services of American engineers had been offered to improve the transportation situation on the Trans-Siberian Rallroad was not to be taken as indicating any change in this Government's attitude toward the

The offer to send American railroad men to Russia to rehabilitate that country s badly disorganized transportation system was made while former Premier Kerensky was in power and many of the railroad men arrived before he was

Three hundred more engineers reached Vladivostok this week and are expected to begin work immediately.

ARRESTED IN RUSSIA

Charles H. Smith of Railroad Commission Said to Be Detained.

Charles H. Smith of St. Louis, a member of the staff of John F. Stevens, head of the American Railway Commisdiscussions are reported to have oc- with M. Oustrougeff, former Assistant Minister of Railways, who is held by the Rolsheviki as a member of the Provi-

sional Government.

Ambassador Francis has telegraphed the American Consuls at Harbin and Vladivostok to intervene. At the Smolny Institute, the Bolsheyik head-quarters, it was said that if the American had been arrested it was a mistake and he would be immediately released.

SMITH'S CONNECTION.

Joined American Railroad

Commission in Russin. Sr. Louis, Dec. 15 .- Charles H. Smith formerly was employed as a valuation engineer for the Missouri Pacific Railengineer for the Missouri Pacific way. He went to Russia with the at the Kerensky regime. Even the Petrograd left the Missouri Pacific to become a foliod. garrison has become amenable to moderate discipline. The strong hand is jointly by the railroads and the Government on the contents of the salary of th ment to determine the value of the mil-In May, 1816, he and his wife went to Russia, where he worked with the American Railroad Commission arrived in Russia he joined that body. Last Coxtober a letter was received here from Strikh saying that he then was in Harbin, Manchuria, and had given up his private the House. Suppose of the result. roads in the United States.

ity. Trotaky, on the other hand, speaks NO NEW OFFENSIVE DISCLOSED IN WEST

Fighting in Flanders and to Southeast Attains No.

ARTILLERY LESS ACTIVE

Great Proportions.

Germans Claim British Made Notable Failure to Gain Decision.

London, Dec. 15 .- Although the ball . still persists in many quarters that the Germans are planning a new offerthe greatest of the war and more adverthed in advance than any previous drive, there was nothing in the happenings on the western front to-day to indicate that such a movement was under way. British official statement says:

Local fighting was recommenced yesterday evening in the neighborhood of Polderhook Chateau, in which on troops regained a considerable part of the trench into which the enemy ba-penetrated during the morning. Yesterday evening the enemy made another local attack east of Bulle-court, but was completely repulsed. This afternoon we carried out a successful raid north of the village, which we captured prisoners and destroyed enemy dugouts. On another portion of the front a few prisoners also were taken during the night by Portuguese troops in patrol encoun

The hostile artillery has shown cosiderable activity to-day in the neighborhood of Hargicourt and Flesquie es between Gavrelle and Lens, and is the Passchendaele sector

Even the artillery fire, which has been active for several days on the Ypresand Cambral fronts, has died down to norm ! or less. Berlin reports to-night regarding the Polderhoek fighting that two British officers and forty-five men were taken in a German raid, and that a British counter attack launched at night to recover the lost ground broke down Paris says there was nothing worth reporting on the French front. An official communication from German general headquarters making reference to the front of Crown Prince

Rupprecht in Flanders says: For over four weeks the Britis have discontinued their attacks in Flanders. Their violent offens ve-which had for its objective possession of the Flanders coast and destruction of our submarine bases, may, there fore, be considered closed for the

Nearly the whole English army, reinforced by the French, has for ever three months struggled with our army in Flanders to obtain a decision Here also German leadership and German troops have been victorious, while at other points we have crushed the enemy by mighty blows. the English army in Flanders has been accentuated by the heavy dereal which it suffered at Cambral.

PROHIBITION VOTE MONDAY

Sponsors Say Amendment Will Be

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 -A vote or U. Smith saying that he then was in Harbin, day afternoon was agreed to to-the a Manchuria, and had given up his private the House. Sponsors of the result a commission. two-thirds vote.



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